



AC/12/2020

Administrative Circular

2020-04-02

TO ALL NATIONAL COMMITTEES

Coronavirus: Key IEC and ISO Standards related to critical care ventilators made available to facilitate increase of production

Dear Sir/Madam,

In the context of the Coronavirus crisis, the availability of critical care ventilators is becoming a major issue for health organisations in many countries. These ventilators represent essential medical equipment for the increasing number of severely ill patients.

In support of the fight against Covid-19, the IEC and ISO have decided to offer the standards and most relevant normative references for critical care ventilators free of charge to industries who want to convert their existing assembly lines to ventilator production. These standards assist companies in building effective ventilators that are safe for patients and medical personnel operating them.

The standards can be requested via the [IEC](#) and [ISO](#) webstores. They are exclusively reserved for industries who will manufacture critical care ventilators for use by Covid-19 patients.

IEC Members wishing to offer free access to these IEC Standards and the national adoptions thereof are encouraged to do so to help limit the impact of the pandemic. When making such standards available free of cost, National Committees must make sure that the files are properly secured (view only is preferred when possible; mandatory: print restrictions, text copy prevention and watermark) and are requested to report to [IEC Central Office](#) on a weekly basis using the enclosed template.

The permission to make the IEC Standards and their national adoptions freely accessible only applies to the standards cited in Annex and is strictly limited to IEC Members. Commercial distributors receiving such requests must redirect them to the IEC Member in the country where the request originated.

The possibility to provide free access to these standards remains in effect until further advised.

For any questions you may contact Ms Guilaine Fournet, Head of Sales & Business Development (gnf@iec.ch).

Our thoughts go out to all those who are directly or indirectly affected by this global health emergency.

Yours sincerely,

P. Metzger
General Secretary & CEO

cc: Council Board, Sales Advisory Group

Annex: List of standards
Reporting template

Standards provided by IEC:

IEC 60601-1:2005+AMD1:2012 CSV Medical electrical equipment - Part 1: General requirements for basic safety and essential performance

IEC 60601-1-2:2014 Medical electrical equipment - Part 1-2: General requirements for basic safety and essential performance - Collateral standard: Electromagnetic disturbances - Requirements and tests

IEC 60601-1-6:2010 Medical electrical equipment - Part 1-6: General requirements for basic safety and essential performance - Collateral standard: Usability

IEC 60601-1-8:2006 Medical electrical equipment - Part 1-8: General requirements for basic safety and essential performance - Collateral Standard: General requirements, tests and guidance for alarm systems in medical electrical equipment and medical electrical systems

IEC 60601-1-11:2015 Medical electrical equipment - Part 1-11: General requirements for basic safety and essential performance - Collateral Standard: Requirements for medical electrical equipment and medical electrical systems used in the home healthcare environment

In this case, the IEC standards will be provided with the following settings:

- Print restrictions
- Text copy prevention
- Watermark

Standards provided by ISO: [complete list available here](#)